recommend itself to his reason. In particular, should lie now meet with some individual who relates the previous history of Napoleon, dwelling specially on his greatness and degradation, he is prepared to credit his informant, and he feels now that the mystery has been unfolded, and that all difficulties have vanished. No illustration should be carried beyond the purpose contemplated ; and that now used is merely intended to exhibit the land of plaited chain which observation and reasoning joining together will be inclined to construct out of the complex materials before us, when we look at the relation in which rnan stands to the world. We cannot avoid discovering proofs of man's grandeur and dignity. All nature, inanimate, instinctive., and sentient, recognises hirn^as its superior and its lord, and ministers to his comfort. Provision is made for his numerous wants, by a complicated but most skilfully arranged machinery. Then what noble mental faculties ! what deep specula.! ions ! what rich emotions ! what fur-reaching projects and anticipations ! There are persons who look to man exclusively under these fairer aspeets, and never cease to discourse of his greatness and goodness, lint other circumstances force themselves on the attention of those who keep their mind open for the reception of the u hole truth. All things sublunary have a reference more or less direct io man ; but many of the divine arrangements arc fitted *la* leave the impression, that God cannot trust mankind in respect of their wisdom, their goodness, or integrity of purpose. We may observe ever-watchful sentinels guarding him; and we learn that force is ever ready to be employed if certain limits aw passed, and certain stringent regulations transgressed. We discover everywhere signs of littleness ami restlessness, of meanness and of crime. There are divines who fix their eyes exclusively upon the features of humanity last narno<l, and

conclude that, man is now lower than the beasts that perish. While partial and prejudiced minds would "confine their attention to one or other of these views, the enlarged soul would, contemplate both, and go out in search of some doctrine comprehensive enough to embrace all. Apart from positive information as to the history of the world, from tradition or professed revelation, ho may find himself baflled i°g. all his conjectures; but should the idea be presented to him of original perfection and a subsequent fall, he feel snow as if he had obtained what he wanted—u truth which